

**Federal Geographic Data Committee
Marine and Coastal Spatial Data Subcommittee
FY 2005 – 2006 Work Plan**

Introduction

The primary mission of the Federal Geographic Data Committee's (FGDC) Marine and Coastal Spatial Data Subcommittee is to develop and promote the Marine and Coastal National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI). The vision of the Marine and Coastal NSDI is that current and accurate geospatial coastal and ocean data will be readily available to contribute locally, nationally, and globally to economic growth, environmental quality and stability, and social progress. The subcommittee, through its member agencies and the FGDC, will work to develop strategic partnerships and relevant standards and to provide outreach that will enhance access to and utility of coastal and ocean framework data.

During fiscal years 2005 to 2006, the subcommittee will focus on the following items:

1. Designing and adding substantive content to the E-Government Geospatial One-Stop Project.
2. Responding to recommendations in the National Research Council's "A Geospatial Framework for the Coastal Zone: National Needs for Coastal Mapping and Charting," and other external drivers such as the United States Commission on Ocean Policy Report and the NSDI Future Directions Initiative.
3. Developing the National Shoreline Data Content Standard.
4. Advancing the bathymetry framework theme.
5. Continuing to sponsor and support the Marine Boundary Working Group (MBWG).

Progress on these work items will be reported at each subcommittee meeting and through the annual NSDI reports. Action item leaders are in parenthesis.

1) E-Gov Geospatial One-Stop

Subcommittee Action: Design, develop, and promote the oceans and estuaries channel on the Geospatial One-Stop Portal. (Owens, Stein)

Subcommittee Action: Begin a dialog with the USGS National Geospatial Program Office (NGPO) and the National Map staff to include coastal and ocean data in their mapping services. (Owens, Stein, Hawks, Westington)

2) NRC and Ocean Commission Recommendations

National Research Council (NRC) Recommendation 1: To achieve national consistency, all parties should define their shorelines in terms of a tidal datum, allowing vertical shifts to be calculated between and among the various shoreline definitions, while at the same time permitting different agencies and users to maintain their existing legal shoreline definitions. In situations in which legislation or usage does not preclude it, the committee recommends that internationally

recognized shoreline established by NOAA's NGS be adopted. The committee encourages the Marine and Coastal Spatial Data Subcommittee of the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) to pursue implementation of this recommendation.

Subcommittee Action: Develop, promote, and implement the National Shoreline Data Content Standard. (Linzey, Martin)

Subcommittee Action: Report back to subcommittee on meetings, projects, and correspondence related to vertical datum coordination among shoreline producing agencies. (Linzey)

Subcommittee Action: Coordinate a presentation and possible workshop at the Coastal GeoTools Conference in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, on the use of the V-Datum tool, which allows transformation of elevation data from one vertical datum into another. (LaVoi, Kenny)

NRC Recommendation 2: To be effective, coordination should be carried out among the primary agencies involved in coastal zone mapping, it should be mediated by a body that has the authority and means to monitor and ensure compliance, and it should involve people who are knowledgeable enough to identify the most critical issues. The committee suggested that a restructured FGDC and an empowered Marine and Coastal Spatial Data Subcommittee will be required to allay these concerns.

Subcommittee Action: Hold at least two full-day meetings per year to ensure that member and subcommittee activities are shared with the group. (LaVoi, Stein)

Subcommittee Action: Members of the subcommittee attend FGDC Coordination Group, Geospatial One-Stop, and other relevant FGDC meetings so that current FGDC activities and external drivers can be articulated to the larger subcommittee and member agencies. (LaVoi)

Subcommittee Action: Coordinate with the Interagency Coastal and Ocean Mapping (ICOM) efforts. (LaVoi)

NRC Recommendation 3: All federally funded coastal zone mapping and charting activities should be registered at a common, publicly available Web site. This combined registry should be accessible through the single Web portal for coastal zone information.

Subcommittee Action: Provide information to subcommittee members about populating the geodata marketplace on the Geospatial One-Stop Portal. (Owens)

Subcommittee Action: Raise the issue to the FGDC about using ongoing Office of Management and Budget (OMB) data calls to populate the geodata marketplace. (LaVoi)

3) Bathymetry, NSDI Framework Theme

Subcommittee Action: Convene a bathymetry special interest group meeting in FY 2005 or 2006. The purpose of this meeting will be to share information among the agencies collecting bathymetric data and develop a plan in-line with the NSDI framework strategy. (TBD)

5) FGDC Marine Boundary Working Group

Subcommittee Action: Continue to coordinate and advance the marine cadastre/marine boundary framework theme through the activities of the Marine Boundary Working Group. (Thormahlen, Fowler)